

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 05183 191038Z
ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2668
WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 5183

EXDIS (DIST AS NODIS)

WHITE HOUSE FOR VP MONDALE FROM AMBASSADOR

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR PDEV IS US
SUBJ: INVITATION TO VISIT ISRAEL

1. I HAVE BEEN ASKED BY ARIEH DULZIN, PRESIDENT OF THE ISRAEL-AMERICA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY, TO EXTEND AN OFFICIAL INVITATION FOR YOU TO VISIT ISRAEL FOR AT LEAST A COUPLE OF DAYS AROUND JULY 4 AND TO ATTEND A GALA CELEBRATION BEING PLANNED BY THE SOCIETY IN CONJUNCTION WITH ISRAEL'S THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY. SIMCHA DINITZ MAY HAVE ALSO SPOKEN TO YOU ABOUT THIS.

2. DULZIN IS A LEADING MODERATE IN THE LIBERAL PARTY COMPONENT OF THE GOVERNING LIKUD. HE WAS JUST ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION AND ALSO OF THE JEWISH AGENCY, WHICH PUTS HIM FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS IN BOTH A VERY CONSPICUOUS AND A VERY INFLUENTIAL POSITION IN THESE TWO ORGANIZATIONS WHICH LINK WORLD JEWRY WITH THE STATE OF ISRAEL. HE IS NOT OFFICIALLY A MEMBER OF THE CABINET, ALTHOUGH HIS POSITION IN THE ISRAELI SYSTEM IS CERTAINLY OF CABINET RANK. I FEEL CERTAIN HE CLEARED THIS IDEA WITH BEGIN.

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3. DULZIN HAS BEEN INCREASINGLY TROUBLED IN RECENT WEEKS BY THE DEEPENING GAPS BETWEEN THE US AND ISRAEL, AND HAS BEEN SEARCHING HARD FOR SOME WAY TO ARREST THE TREND. HE HAS BEEN VERY MUCH OUT OF SYMPATHY WITH PRIME MINISTER BEGIN'S HARD LINE ON SUCH MATTERS AS 242 AND SETTLEMENTS POLICY, AND HAS BEEN DOING A GOOD DEAL

BEHIND THE SCENES TO TRY TO STIFFEN THE BACKBONE OF
EHRlich AND OTHERS OF THE LIBERAL PARTY WHO ARE IN THE
CABINET, WITHOUT OVERWHELMING SUCCESS.

4. DULZIN BELIEVES, AND I HEARTILY AGREE, THAT IF YOU
COULD SEE YOUR WAY CLEAR TO ACCEPT THIS INVITATION AND
SPEND TWO OR THREE DAYS HERE TALKING PRIVATELY AND SEMI-
PUBLICLY WITH A VARIETY OF ISRAELI LEADERS IT WOULD HAVE
A MAJOR POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE INCREASINGLY TORMENTED
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO CAPITALS. WHATEVER THE
STATE OF PLAY ON PEACE NEGOTIATIONS AT THAT POINT, I
THINK WE CAN SAFELY PREDICT THAT A VISIT BY YOU HERE
WOULD BE A MAJOR PLUS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION IN MANY
RESPECTS AND COULD HAVE AN EXTREMELY USEFUL IMPACT ON
THE INTERNAL ISRAELI POLITICAL SCENE, WITHOUT IN ANY
SENSE BEING SEEN AS INTERFERENCE.

5. I HOPE YOU WILL GIVE THIS INVITATION SERIOUS CON-
SIDERATION. NEEDLESS TO SAY, IT WOULD BE A GREAT
PERSONAL PRIVILEGE FOR ME TO HAVE YOU HERE, BUT MUCH
MORE IMPORTANT I THINK YOU COULD DO A WORLD OF GOOD.
LEWIS

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